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[103]

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Correspondence in ENGLISH is respectfully solicited.

[1174]

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

TO-DAY.

"Our Day."

9 a.m.—Collection for Lady May's Rose Fund.

3 p.m.—Great Drawing of War Bonds at

the Murray Parade Ground.

TO-NIGHT

9 p.m.—Fete at the Public Gardens.

TO-MORROW.

9.15 p.m.—Fantastics at the Theatre Royal.

Saturday, 20th Oct.—

11.30 a.m.—China Light and Power Co.,

Ltd., Meeting of Shareholders.

4.30 p.m.—The Fantastics, Matinee at the

Theatre Royal.

8.15 p.m.—Fantastics at the Theatre Royal.

Monday, 21st Oct.—

3 p.m.—Auction of Crown Land at Public

Works Dept.

Wednesday, 22nd Oct.—

12.15 p.m.—Meeting of the Licensing Board

in the Council Chamber.

Saturday, 23rd Nov.—

2 p.m.—Ministering Children's League,

Sale of Work at the Government House.

SALONIKA BEFORE THE
FIRE

A woman correspondent writes in the Times of August 27th: "Above the crowded water front, with its ceaseless clang of motor-lorries and trams, the Moslem Salonika dreams apart. The noise and bustle of a Near Eastern war base are soon forgotten in the old city on the hill, where the latticed balconies charm the eye but block the view at every turn. The narrow streets are frequently empty until noon, when the boys come out from school, and the men of the family return from their work in the bazaars, bringing the day's fish and vegetable, swinging on a string together with the large Bluebeard key of the homestead door."

Now and then a veiled figure hurries along, clinging to the shadow of the walls—quite unlike the young Spanish Jewesses in their chic French clothes who go shopping in the Rue Venizelos and love to listen to the street music which plays there on Sunday. At times a glimpse is caught of a beautiful, clear-cut profile, calm and pale as a nun's, or the veil of one of the shapeless bundles lifts, and the black inquisitive face of an old slave gives the passer-by a sudden shock of surprise. At the cross-roads a couple of equally incongruous-looking British Military Police may often be found, for this is out of bounds to our troops, who are wont to look on Salonika as an evil-smelling seaport boasting nothing much beyond some empty Austrian stores and a long row of cafes and cinemas.

In the tranquil world of the Turkish town above the Via Egnatia at every turning something lures one on. A grim iron-bound door opens furtively for a moment, revealing an inner court where a lotus-cupped fountain dances before a clump of feathery lilacs, mauve and white. The steep, ill-paved streets are forgotten; the spirits rise airily with the spray. In a garden further up the hill, branches of pink fruit blossom wave their arms across a velvet-dark cypress: here is the favourite motive of the craftsman all the Moslem world over; and quite apart from its apt symbolism, how well he chose his theme! Later in the year, showers of wistaria and little banksia roses pour over the high walls and no gardener to restrain them—half smothered the fine old houses of the rich pashas who have fled.

One dull afternoon in March, I came on the best of these scenes when I turned, without knowing where I was, into the courtyard of the Sali Djami. I remember now the sharp feeling of delight. The leaves of the great cypresses still hung on the trees, but changed from the fiery red of autumn to a rich sombre brown. In the low light the large trunks and boughs gleamed smooth and silver. The beyond, in an archway, with a high wrought-iron grille, a cobbler plied a casual trade, and behind him again the town, terrace upon terrace, lay wrapped in these quiet harmonies, in the paved grass-grown court, rose the brilliant deep blue pillars of the mosque. Three o'clock struck. "Allah-u akbar! Allah-u akbar!" The cry of a departing faith floated down faintly, mournfully from the upper air.

THE MOSQUE BUILDERS.
The interior of the mosque, like many others there, was featureless and disappointing. It is the outside aspect which, as a rule, concerns Moslem builders. The striking change from Byzantine to Arab work was the change from internal to external colour effects. The Christians, from the first cave chapels to the cathedrals down to the French Gothic cathedrals, cut themselves off from outside influences when they prayed. The custom may have grown out of grim necessity; it was best to hide in the days of persecution. Joined to this, no doubt, it was felt to have a deeper spiritual meaning. But the Moslems, like the ancient Greeks, praised Allah in the open air. The courtyard of Mohammed's house at Medina formed the type for the first mosque. In one of the arches of its surrounding arcade was placed the Mihrab, the empty niche—the sanctuary without the idol. The mosaics of St. Sophia, the golden gloom of Chartres, and their equal but exact opposite in the dawn-flushed portals of the Taj.

Scattered throughout the Turkish quarter are a few forlorn-looking tekkes—monasteries or hermits' cells, where one or two dervishes cling to the scene of their past activities. Here, if anywhere, it should be dangerous for a Westerner to intrude. Accustomed as I was to go where fancy led without attracting any notice beyond that of the gipsy children, I hesitated to accept the grave invitation to enter the archway below the porch of St. Demetrius. But the fountain and the flowers, with proved too tempting to resist. To my surprise the sheikh who lived there, the owner of the little garden and serving the mosque, far from being a fierce enemy, hailed with delight the chance of pouring his woes into English ears. It was hard to make out whom he hated most, the Jewish "Young Turks" who had rushed his country into war with their best friends in Europe, or the Greeks who had raided his garden at the taking of Salonika and wistfully smashed the image of his family saints. I left with a bunch of pink roses and lilac and a special request that I should come back and sketch the mosque.

A HOSPITABLE DERVISH.
Nor was this a solitary instance of Turkish hospitality in war-time. At the Monastery of Mevlana, outside the city walls, a direct descendant of the last Seljuk Sultan still entertains the stray visitor to his fascinating, but much dilapidated shrine. I went there one day with two companions—a Red Cross sister, and an Anglo-Syrian merchant not long escaped from Smyrna, my object, at the moment, being to find out something further on the subject of the symbolism employed in the planting of Moslem tombs. The afternoon prayers were ending as we arrived and walked up the steps leading into the picturesque courtyard. In the centre stood a fountain, the ceiling of its dome and deep eaves covered with frescoes in the modern Turkish style, a quaint blend of Chinese and French Rococo. A servant met us there and showed us into the Chief Dervish's room to await his return. Round the walls ran the usual low divan. The skins of wild animals on the floor reminded me of Persian miniatures of Mahjoun as a desert dervish.

When the great man entered the merchant greeted him in suitable flowing terms and at the same time we made our

(Continued at foot of next Column.)

THE GARMENT OF FEAR.

HOW IT SLIPPED OFF.

[BY WILFRED L. RANDALL.]

"Look here, old man," said the young captain to his friend as they sat over supper in the windowless house which served them as a rest billet, "have you ever studied odd things—mysterious sensations, queer impressions, and . . . and that sort of business?"

"Well, now and then I've nugged up various sorts of semi-scientific stunts for recreation. What's the wherefore of your question?"

"Just this: how do you account for the fact that there are some days when I feel absolutely safe, perfectly sure that no harm can come to me when I could face a machine-gun pumping lead and not turn a hair; and there are other days when I'm as scared as a nervous recruit at a bombing class—when I'm frightened to be anywhere outside the deepest dug-out, and fancy every shell is coming to my address?"

There was a lengthy tobacco-laden pause.

"Can't explain it, old chap. It's possibly a mystery of the particular arrangement of your nervous system. But I have a theory, or an idea, that if in one of your funky fits you deliberately faced some rather exceptional danger the spell would be broken. You would upset the timing mechanism of the half of you that gets frightened, and it would be out of order ever after. That's my notion."

"I wonder," mused the other. And soon afterwards they separated.

In two more days the "rest"—within sound of the guns—was over, and the young captain returned to the zone where leisurely suppers and clean sheets were simply lovely memories.

At one in the morning, when a curious silence fell between the general spasms of noise, he sent out a patrol. An hour went by, and then some imaginative youngster let off his rifle and woke up the German army, which promptly "got the wind up" and telephoned for their heavies to stop an entirely imaginary attack; and as the batteries had evidently registered on this part of the British line the landscape began to alter—and not at all quickly.

Where was the patrol?

He couldn't help picturing that little group of men. No. Man's Land, stumbling across the pitted earth, standing like statues when the lights rocketed aloft, trying to edge their way back. Useless to "patrol" any more now. And the young captain, sickened with a deadly horror as here and there, in front, behind, blasts of exploding shells shook the earth. Fear crept over him, enveloped him, clung to him like a disgusting clammy garment that he could not shake off. He raged at himself; another night he might be seen, alert, able to deal with any emergency—and here he was, shaking like a leaf, only able to gasp and shrink into the nearest shelter! Was there no cure for this awful condition of mind?

The words of his friend came to him. "Deliberately face some exceptional danger." Was this exceptional—this lurid interior? He pulled himself into the open trench, mounted a fire-step, and with a lurch and a scramble entered the land so full of dread and death that it is claimed by no man. Never before in his excursions had he felt so clearly that he was between the two greatest armies of history—lines and groups and companies of men and guns behind him, before him, miles deep. He shuddered, he stumbled forward, crouching low, pausing now and then as the stars of man outside the stars of heaven.

He tripped against something soft. He had done it before—but this one moved. He stopped, saw, and spoke.

"Sergeant—are you badly pipped? Here's a drink—can you hold the flask?" He saw the face smile. He had loved this sergeant for a jolly fellow. The hands of the man wandered stiffly, significantly, to his leg.

"Can you hang on to me?" He lay down for the man to climb him, then rose, lifting him bodily. One leg swung heavily like a pendulum, beating to and fro as he plodded back. Was he in the right direction? Three times he nearly fell; once a piece of madly flung iron ripped his coat. It seemed an hour; but the trench was reached at last, and he laid his hand down in the shelter of his own dug-out. As he did so the firing of the heavens slackened.

A messenger came in. "Patrol back safe, sir, all but one."

He realised as he gave the sergeant hot drinks and made him comfortable until the arrival of the ambulance men that there had been a moment in that short, terrible journey when his garment of fear had slipped from him, had dropped away like a flimsy burden, never, he hoped, to return. The days and nights flickered by like pictures on some slow, magical film thrown to earth by a sardonic, hidden operator; but the "half of him that was frightened" had been put out of gear permanently.

salama. Then with much bowing he retook our seats on the divan. Our host settled himself opposite us, cigarettes and coffee were handed round, and the real conversation between the two men began. It surged up and down in rich, cultural tones, every now and then points being translated and explained for my benefit. Yes, the Chief Dervish admitted, the Hanum (lady) was right in one or two of her surmises. But on the whole, the planting of the flowers she had noticed had no symbolic meaning; it was all a question of custom. As a Moslem priest, of course, he could not allow of symbolism for a moment, for that might savour of the idolatry so condemned by the Holy Koran.

But what started the custom? Why were lilacs, for instance, always found on a woman's tomb, and irises planted in every cemetery? The answer came later from a poet, a secular Moslem scholar. From time to time as the talk flowed on I noticed the dervish glance across at us three persons. At length I saw what was puzzling him. The dervish was a man of our party with his venerable white beard sat in the lowest place, the one nearest the door. "What a deplorable lack of breeding afflicts the English," was plainly what he thought. Just then he looked up at the Red Cross sister on my other side and smiled, a little relieved; at least the Benyuk Hanum, the Eldest wife, had the place of honour. We meant well, our manners, though odd, might pass.

SIAM AND THE WAR.

A CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS FROM THE FRONT.

The Siam Minister for War has issued an important notification calling upon Siamese volunteers for an expeditionary force to proceed to the Western front. A Royal command authorises the formation of a contingent to assist the Allies in the war and display the Siamese flag amongst those of the other Allied Powers and to aid in crushing the brutal war against humanity of the Central Powers, says a Bangkok contemporary.

In order to carry this out His Majesty the King has authorised the calling of a number of volunteers such as aviators, motor-mechanics and drivers, motorcyclists and ambulance workers, who will be ranked as special service men (Rajakarn Pisat). His Majesty is desirous that Siam shall have a chance to demonstrate her desire to actively aid the Allies, gain active military experience under modern war conditions, and uphold the national dignity and honour, and to that end has been pleased to authorise the Minister for War to enrol volunteers.

(1)—These must be Siamese and may be civilians or members of the army, navy or reserve forces.

(2)—Applicants must state their experience as motor-mechanics, drivers or medical or ambulance workers.

(3)—Applicants must supply their full names, ages, names of parents, occupations, trades or professions, place of residence, etc., etc., and must apply in person at the Royal Military College at the back of the Saranrom Palace, where full details of the scheme will be supplied them.

(4)—All applications must be made on or before October 15th.

(5)—There will be no appeal against rejections.

(6)—Civilian volunteers will be included in the Army List, but they will not be tattooed. They will be paid from the date of the expedition leaving Siam, and the pay will be divided into two portions, one of which will go to the man himself and the other to his family or dependants.

(7)—Pensions will be granted in case of death, wounds or disablement on service.

BRITISH BAN ON SILK RAISED

The Tokio Foreign Department recently announced receipt of a telegram from Viscount Chinda, Ambassador to London, saying that the British Government has decided to abolish the restriction on imports of Japanese silk textiles (hitherto only 20 per cent of the total export in 1916 of Japanese silk textiles to Great Britain have been permitted).

Great Britain has been receiving supplies of silk textiles from Italy and Switzerland, but since the outbreak of war, supplies from these countries have fallen off considerably, and of late the shortage has been made up by shipments from France.

For some time, exports of silk goods to Great Britain were prohibited as luxuries, but some time after, imports from Japan were allowed to the extent of one-half of last year's total. Of late, the demand for silk goods has increased considerably in England owing to the greatly increased earnings of the working classes. Such being the case, the price of silk has advanced rapidly in England, and therefore the British Government has decided to discontinue the restrictions on imports of Japanese silk.

COMMERCE AFTER THE WAR
NEW INTELLIGENCE SERVICE.

The Parliamentary Correspondent of the Daily Telegraph states that, yielding to a persistent demand made both in Parliament and throughout the country, the Government have devised a scheme for the establishment of a Commercial Intelligence Service, in order that the commercial interests of the nation may be looked after and fostered more effectively after the war than it has been before. The task was entrusted to the Foreign Office and the Board of Trade, and the proposals have received the approval of the Cabinet; but will not be put into operation until they have been announced to Parliament. Lord Robert Cecil and Sir Albert Stanley, as representing the two departments concerned, have, however, consented to submit to the Commercial Committee of the House of Commons.

HARBOURS OF THE EMPIRE
NEED FOR IMPROVEMENTS ON THE GREAT SEA ROUTES.

The importance of improving the harbours on the great sea routes of the Empire was urged in the House of Lords recently by Lord d'Abernon. Safety, economy, and speed in sea communication deserved far more consideration from the States of the Empire than they had yet received, he said.

On the great route from the United Kingdom to Australasia via the Cape a maximum expense of £2,000,000 would fundamentally alter its capabilities.

An expenditure of less than £250,000 would make the route from Australia and New Zealand to the United Kingdom via the Panama Canal much more practicable for large and fast vessels, so that liners using the Cape route to Australia would complete their voyage round the world, calling at Jamaica and Halifax.

Lord Curzon agreed that the development of our sea routes and the cheapening of transport would give a great impetus to Imperial trade and strengthen the cohesion of the Empire. The subject had been considered at various Imperial Conferences, but could not be dealt with by a stroke of the pen.

HONGKONG FOOTBALL CLUB
ANNUAL MEETING.

The thirtieth annual meeting of the Hongkong Football Club was held, last evening, at the offices of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd.:—Mr. R. Hancock presided and there were present:—Messrs. J. Ralston, H. J. McTavish, J. Stewart, R. J. Wilton, J. C. Fletcher, G. Gerrard, C. A. Goldenberg, P. W. Ramsay, J. H. Donithorne, H. E. Taylor, H. S. Rouse and W. J. Morrison (Hon. Acting-Secretary and Hon. Treasurer).

In moving the adoption of the Annual Report and Accounts the Chairman said that the accounts were in a very satisfactory condition. The Club had a credit balance of \$344.08 as against \$327.09 last year, while there was \$700 on deposit.

Mrs. Ramsay seconded and the report and accounts were passed.

In the Report the Committee recorded with deep regret the accidental death of one of the most popular members of the Club—Mr. C. Woodhead. The prospects for the coming year are not regarded as very hopeful as several of the best players have left for active service.

The following officers were elected for the forthcoming season:—President, Mr. R. Hancock, Captain of Rugby XV, Mr. H. S. Rouse, Captain of Association XI, Mr. J. McCubbin, Vice-Captain of Association XI, Mr. J. Stewart, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. W. J. Morrison; Committee, Messrs. R. J. Wilton, R. Kennedy, J. Ralston, H. J. McTavish, C. F. Matthy and P. W. Ramsay, and the Captains and Vice-Captain.

Reference was made to the proposal to institute a Roll of Honour in memory of the members who have fallen in the War, and it was agreed to allow the matter to stand over until complete details are available.

Replying to a question as to whether the Club would be entitled to the trophy if they won the United Services League, the Chairman said he thought so, since they were now service men in the Defence Corps, as distinct from volunteers.

It was decided, on the suggestion of Mr. Rouse, to invest the \$700 now on deposit, in the Straits War Loan.

Mr. Stewart mentioned that on the invitation of the R.G.A. a friendly match would be played on Saturday between the R.G.A. and the Club.

The matter of resuming the Shield Competition was left to the Committee.

SPORT.

BILLIARDS.

VOLUNTEER CUP.

The competition for this cup was continued in the Soldiers' Club on Tuesday evening. The 57th Company had a lead of 100 points as the result of the previous evening's play, but the Sappers were in such good form that at the close of play they had wiped off this deficit and were fifty-nine points ahead, having won all three games. There were no outstanding breaks, but double figures were frequent, the highest being 24 by Townsend.

87th Coy. R.G.A.	ROYAL ENGINEERS.
R.S.M. Tattou, 192	2/Cpl. Adams, 200
C.S.M. Heath, 138	C.Q.M.S. Reakes, 200
Sgt. Edge, 143	Spr. Townsend, 200
441	600

CRICKET.

The following will represent the C.R.C. against the Civil Service in a league match on Saturday at 2.15 p.m. on the latter's ground at Happy Valley:—Ng Sze Kwong (Capt.), Ng Sze Yuen, Un How Fan, Ho Wing Kin, G. Lee, H. Ching, Yew Man Chun, Chow Yee Kwong, Wong Po Keung, Wei Lee Son and Wong Kwok Kwong.

UNIQUE MASONIC EVENT.

A member of the first Canadian-American joint expedition to Europe describes an event which is probably unique in the annals of Freemasonry. He writes: "Masons in their initiation are taught the universality of their craft. This was brought home to those on board by the Convocation of an Officers' Lodge, 'Somewhere at Sea' Sunday night, when fifty-six responded to the roll. The lodge was opened and closed in the Master Mason's degree. Lodges all the way from Alaska to the Philippines were represented. All the ancient usages and established customs were respected. Members before admission were, of course, given due trial, strict examination, and properly vouched for. A respectable sum of money was given to the captain of the boat, for Minerva Lodge, Birkenhead, who will turn it over to the Grand Lodge of England. American officers are invariably generous, and on this occasion there were no exceptions."

FOR THE ROSES.

As you wend your way this morning in your ricksha, tram, or chair,
And you thank the gods that Autumn breathes at last into the air,
Does a tiny bitter twinge come? What of Autumn "over there,"
In the pathway that some "other fellow" chose?
You would do your best to help him and to bear the burden too,
But—so far away—well, really—what remains that you may do?
Shall I whisper—Just this minute there's a "bit" that's left for you—
Buy a rose!

From across the dim For Ever comes the call to do our best,
From the great, brave souls "up yonder"—would we frown on their
behest?

Men who met their call with laughter, with a British smile and jest—
And perchance just now they're watching us—who knows?
So the Cross of love and pity calls Earth's flowers to help to-day
In the soothing of the stricken in the grim and ghastly fray—
Did you think?—Some frown of anguish may be softly smoothed away
By your rose!

In the days of kingly Warwick, from the roses white and red,
Fair Dame Flora chose our queen-flower; and, though centuries have fled,
Still we hail her, for the fragrance of the rose will age be shed
Where the flag we love the best its shadow throws,
And the shy, coquettish shamrock, and the thistle, brusque and bold,
And the maple's autumn tinting, and the wattle's fluffy gold,
They will each one smile a "Thank you!" from each downy, velvet fold
Of your rose!

Hongkong, October 18th, 1917.

"OUR DAY."

THE KING'S MESSAGE.

GIFT OF £10,000.

The following telegram from H.M. the King has been received by H.E. the Governor through the Secretary of State for the Colonies:

During the last twelve months I have had constant opportunity of witnessing afresh both at home and in Flanders the great work of mercy carried on by the Red Cross and the Order of St. John of Jerusalem. In every theatre of the war, regardless of distance, discomfort or danger, the task of alleviating pain and suffering and of ministering to those in need is performed with unparalleled devotion by the men and women who have taken service under the Red Cross. The prompt and unrestricted provision of medical and general stores and comforts is an all important work and one of the main responsibilities undertaken by the joint Committee. In hospitals and convalescent homes, hospital trains, motor-ambulances and launches, our sick and wounded, as well as those of our Allies, are, I know, indeed grateful for the aid and co-operation which the joint societies bring to the medical services of the armies; nor have the needs of our prisoners of war been forgotten in the allocation of your funds. I trust, therefore, that there will be no falling off in the generous financial support on the part of everyone at home and in the Dominions overseas without which this work cannot be maintained. During the war I have had great satisfaction in sending to the Joint Committee on the 20th October a donation of £5,000. This year for the "Our Day" collection on the 18th October, it is a pleasure to me to contribute £10,000 to mark my appreciation of what has been achieved by the Red Cross and Order of St. John of Jerusalem in the past and my deep sense of the importance of continuing these achievements in the future.

(Signed) GEORGE, R.I.

THE DRAWING OF WAR BONDS.

We are officially informed that the Drawing of War Bonds has reached the total of \$80,000 and that the prizes will be as follows:

1st Prize	\$24,000
2nd Prize	8,000
3rd Prize	3,200
Four Prizes of \$1,000 each	4,000
Eleven Prizes of \$500 each	5,500
Thirty-three Prizes of \$100 each	3,300
Distributed in prizes	48,000
For the Red Cross	32,000
	\$80,000

Holders of winning tickets are requested to present them at the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation on and after Friday, 19th instant, during business hours.

THE MOTOR-CAR RAFFLE.

The raffle for the Motor-car presented by the Portuguese Community will be drawn on the Murray Parade this afternoon. The Asiatic Petroleum Company has kindly offered to supply free to the winner his requirements of "Shell" motor spirit and autocar oil for three months, from the 19th instant. The amount to be supplied free will be limited to five cases of motor spirit and one four-gallon tin of autocar oil a month.

THE RECENT FIRE AT KOWLOON CITY. INQUIRY OPENED.

In Mr. Wood's Court, yesterday afternoon, an inquiry was held into the fire which occurred at the Kwong Wing Cheung Chan Dye Works, at Hoklosun, Kowloon City, on the 7th inst.

It was stated that there were no indications that the goods alleged to have been destroyed were on the premises at the time of the fire when the Insurance Companies, who issued the policies, had the fire investigated. The building and the goods were insured in three different firms for the following amounts:—Tai Sun Insurance Co., \$5,000 on goods and \$4,000 on the furniture and fixtures; Sincere Insurance Co., \$3,000 on goods and \$500 on the furniture and fixtures; Luen On Insurance Co., \$4,000 on goods only; Sincere Insurance Co., \$9,000 on the building.

Mr. F. X. d'Almada, held a watching brief for the firm, and Mr. H. J. Gedge for the Insurance Companies concerned.

A partner of the firm stated that he was a piece-goods dealer and had a separate concern in Shanghai Street. He and his brothers were partners in the Kwong Wing Cheung Chan Dye Works at Hoklosun, Kowloon City. They had been doing business at the Dye Works for over three years. The business made a profit of a little over \$1,000 a year. The fire occurred on the 7th October. He was at Yumtani at the time and knew nothing about it until a foki, who was living in the Dye Works, came over to inform him.

He had not been to the Works for the last two weeks. He could not say what the value of the premises was, but the stock-in-trade contained in the godown at the time of the fire was reckoned at a little over \$13,000, exclusive of the furniture and fixtures, which had cost the firm about \$2,000 when new. The firm was indebted to the amount of about \$4,000. All the account books of the Dye Works have been destroyed in the fire, but they related chiefly to the entry and departure of goods from the works. The cash books were kept at his shop at Shanghai Street.

After further evidence the inquiry was adjourned.

MOUNTED POLICE STONED. PERSISTENTLY PELTED BY A GANG OF BOYS.

A small Chinese boy aged 14 was charged by Trooper-Sergeant Arnold, of the Police Reserve, with assault.

Defendant said he was going to school at the moment of his arrest. He was not in the gang of boys who attacked the Police; he was only standing on the pavement when the police arrested him.

Mr. F. C. Jenkin, D.S.P. (R.) prosecuted. He stated that the defendant and a gang of boys assaulted a Mounted Police Patrol by throwing stones and other missiles at them. The occurrence was not the first of its kind; and he regarded it as a serious matter, for, although the defendant was very young, that did not affect the duty of the Police to put a stop to this class of nuisance.

The previous night the Mounted Police Patrol was deliberately followed for about forty minutes by a gang of boys, among whom was defendant, hooting and pelting them with missiles, and both the riders and ponies were struck. Probably defendant was not the ringleader, but there was no doubt that he was one of those who stoned the patrol.

Trooper-Sergeant Arnold deposed that he was on patrol duty the previous evening in company with Trooper Smirk.

They went along Queen's Road into Jubilee Street. There they saw a crowd of gamblers gambling on the pavement and ordered an Indian policeman to clear them away. They then rode down to the Praya, followed by a gang of boys, jeering and hooting. He saw defendant, who was in the gang, picking up stones and throwing them. He and Trooper Smirk turned about and ordered them to desist, but, in spite of warnings, the gang steadily continued to pelt them. One of the missiles struck witness on the wrist and another struck his pony on the hind leg. All the way from Jubilee Street, along Des Voeux Road to the Praya, along Hillier Street and Cross Street, the mob continued to persecute them. On their return there was more trouble near the Canton Steamboat Wharf until they reached opposite Sincere's, where they met a foot patrol. He asked the constables to arrest the offenders, and Constable Guimaraes seized the defendant.

Mr. Dyer Ball sentenced the defendant to 12 strokes of the birch.

WEDDING AT ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL. CAPTAIN GRAY AND MISS LAMMERT.

The wedding of Captain Eric Hubert Gray, 74th Punjab, Indian Army, elder son of Mr. and Mrs. James Gray, of the Manor House, Honor Oak, England, and Miss Phyllis Jean Mary Lammert, elder daughter of Captain Geo. P. Lammert, V.D., and Mrs. Lammert, of 153 The Peak, Hongkong, took place at St. John's Cathedral yesterday afternoon.

The ceremony was a very pretty one. The Cathedral had been tastefully decorated by Mrs. Gibson, Miss Wilkinson, the Misses Gordon, Miss Hastings, Miss Robertson and Miss Woodcock, and was filled to overflowing with the friends of the contracting parties. The bride, a skilled horsewoman and a keen tennis player—has always taken an active part in the sports of the community, and is widely known and very popular, her family being one of the oldest in the Colony. Among those present were H. B. the Governor (Sir Henry May, K.C.M.G.) and H. E. Major-General Ventris, the General Officer-Commanding, accompanied by their respective A.D.C.s. The brother officers of the bridegroom attended in full force, all units of the garrison being well represented.

The service was conducted by the Rev. C. J. Cooper Hunt, Chaplain to the Forces. Mr. Denman Fuller, F.R.C.O., presided at the organ, and greeted the bridal procession with the strains of Lemaire's "Madrigal," playing Mendelssohn's "Wedding March" when the service had been completed and the names were being signed in the register.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, looked charming in a gown of ivory tulle and French lace, trimmed with lace and pearls. She carried a beautiful bouquet of white roses. Her bridesmaids were her little sister, Miss Eileen Joyce Lammert, and Miss Hilda Butterfield, who were daintily dressed in apricot coloured Georgette crepe and carried muffs of violets. Lieut. H. E. Murray, I.M.S., acted as "best man." As the newly-married couple left the church they passed under an archway formed by the swords of the bridegroom's brother officers.

A reception followed at "Kingsclere," where the toast of the bride and bridegroom was honoured with the greatest enthusiasm. The bride was the recipient of numerous good wishes, and the bridegroom was overwhelmed with congratulations. Both received a large number of handsome wedding presents. The gift of the bridegroom to the bride was a pair of diamond and aquamarine ear-rings, and to the bridesmaids, pearls and brooches. The bride's gift to the bridegroom was a set of tortoise-shell and silver brushes.

Later in the day Captain and Mrs. Gray left for their honeymoon. The bride's travelling dress was of grey silk.

HONGKONG MAGISTRACY.

OPIUM PROSECUTION.

A Chinese woman and a man were charged with the unlawful possession of 3 taels of opium drops.

Defendants pleaded that the opium was to be used for making opium wine to relieve the opium-smoking habit. The first defendant was fined \$5 and the second \$25.

CHINESE NEWSPAPER FINED.

The case was resumed this morning in which the printer of the *Chung Yee Sun* was charged with failing to comply with the Newspaper Registration Ordinance.

Mr. E. Davidson, solicitor for the defendant, stated that the requirements of the Regulations had now been complied with.

The defendant was fined in all \$100, with \$30 costs.

LED ASTRAY.

A small Chinese boy was charged, on remand, with stealing some brass.

The boy was apprenticed to a brass-smith, and his master declined, in the circumstances, to take him back into his employment.

Inspector Gerrard expressed the opinion that the boy, who was fresh from the country, had been influenced by some of the men to steal the brass. He believed the boy to be quite all right, and hoped the Magistrate would give him a chance. If the boy's relatives refused to pay his fare back to the country he would gladly do so.

Mr. J. B. Wood, agreeing with the Inspector's opinion, ordered the boy to be returned to the country.

A DISHONEST PRIEST.

A Chinese priest pleaded guilty before Mr. J. B. Wood, yesterday, to stealing an earthenware bank, containing \$210, from a colleague's house at No. 6, Tatit Lane, Kowloon City, on the 14th instant.

Inspector Grant stated that defendant had been employed with complainant for about ten years, and they lived in the same house. On the 14th inst. complainant went to Samshaipe and his wife also left the house for about an hour. Later on defendant also went out, and, as he did not return, complainant's wife grew suspicious, and, looking round, found that one of the earthenware banks, containing \$210, had been replaced by a new one. She reported the matter to the Police, and defendant was arrested in Shanghai Street, Yumtani, and \$80 of the money was recovered.

Defendant was sentenced to four months' hard labour.

INTIMATIONS

LANE, CRAWFORD

& CO.

SPECIAL VALUE IN MEN'S

SLEEPING SUITS

FANCY STRIPE CEYLONETTE

\$3.50 TO \$4.50 PER SUIT.

FANCY & BLOCK STRIPE CEYLON

\$6.00 TO \$8.00 PER SUIT.

HEAVY TWILL CEYLON

\$6.00 TO \$8.50 PER SUIT.

"VIYELLA" SLEEPING SUITS

IN THREE WEIGHTS.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO

WAR CHARITIES.

"OUR+DAY"

TO-DAY (THURSDAY). 18TH OCT. 1917.

MORNING:

Collection for LADY MAY'S ROSE FUND.
Or cheques may be sent now addressed to LADY MAY, Government House (envelopes being marked "Rose Fund").

AFTERNOON at the Murray Parade Ground.

The Ground will be open at 3 o'clock.
St. John Ambulance Brigade Competition at 3.30.
Great Drawing of War Bonds at 3.45.
Drawing of Motor Car Raffle.

Teas and Refreshments in English and Chinese style, and various attractions.

EVENING at 9 o'clock.

FETE at the Public Gardens. New OFFICIAL WAR FILMS shown for the first time in Hongkong; Illuminations and Music.

THE BANDS OF THE 25th MIDDLESEX REGIMENT, 18th INFANTRY, 74th PUNJABIS and POLICE RESERVE will play during the Afternoon and Evening.

Admission to Parade Ground, 50 Cents.
Admission to Gardens, \$1; Seats, \$5 enclosure on Thursday evening, and \$1 enclosure on Friday evening, when the performance will be repeated.
Sailors and Soldiers in uniform (not including the Hongkong Defence Corps) admitted free; Children half-price for admission and seats.
Tickets for admission and seats obtainable at MOUTRIE'S, ROBINSON'S, ANDERSON'S and from Members of the WAR CHARITIES GENERAL COMMITTEE and at the Gate.

(112)

Wm. Powell Ltd
TELEPHONE 346

FOR

"OUR DAY"

PATRIOTIC RIBBONS

National Colours of the Allies in Several Widths.

"HEATHER DAY"

TARTAN RIBBONS

in Great Variety.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

FIRE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF HONGKONG.

"OUR DAY"

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all FIRE INSURANCE OFFICES will be CLOSED for the Transaction of PUBLIC BUSINESS after 1 P.M. TO-DAY (THURSDAY), the 18th October, 1917.

By Order,
A. R. LOWE,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 17th October, 1917. [1172]

MARINE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF HONGKONG.

"OUR DAY"

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all MARINE INSURANCE OFFICES will be CLOSED for the Transaction of PUBLIC BUSINESS after 1 P.M. TO-DAY (THURSDAY), the 18th October, 1917.

By Order,
A. R. LOWE,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 17th October, 1917. [1173]

"OUR DAY"

EVENING FETE AT THE BOTANICAL GARDENS.

IN consequence of the GREAT SALE OF SEATS for the EVENING FETE TO-DAY (THURSDAY), it has been found necessary to arrange for a REPETITION OF THE PERFORMANCE ON FRIDAY, THE 19th INSTANT, when the Programme will be the same as on THURSDAY.

On Thursday evening, all entrance tickets will be available, and seating accommodation will be provided for 45 reserved seat tickets, but not for 81 unreserved seat tickets.

On Friday evening 81 seat tickets will be available without further charge for admission.

[1171]

"OUR DAY"

DURING THE DRAWING OF WAR BONDS

THE ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE

will give a Display on the Murray Parade Ground.

MARCH PAST with the Brigade's Bugle Band at 3 P.M.

FULLY EQUIPPED FIELD HOSPITAL TENT under charge of V.A.D. Nursing Sisters.

COMPETITIONS:—
1. Company Drill.
2. Kit Inspection, &c.
3. Stretcher Work and Field Practice in First Aid.

[1162]

"OUR DAY"

THE EXCHANGE BANKS will be CLOSED for EXCHANGE BUSINESS TO-DAY (THURSDAY), the 18th instant, at 1 P.M.

Hongkong, 18th October, 1917. [1167]

HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that the HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE will be CLOSED TO-DAY (THURSDAY), 18th instant, at 1 o'clock P.M. "OUR DAY."

By Order of the Committee,
H. HANCOCK,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 18th October, 1917. [1161]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS of the letting by Public Auction Sale, to be held on MONDAY, the 22nd day of October, 1917, at 8 P.M., at the Office of the PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, by Order of His EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, of One LOT of CROWN LAND at Nathan Road, Kowloon, in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 75 years, with the option of renewal at a CROWN RENT to be fixed by the Surveyor of His MAJESTY THE KING, for one further term of 75 years.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

No. of Sale.	Trinity No.	Locality.	Boundary Measurements (Approximate).	Contents (Approximate).	Area (Approximate).	Upset Price.
1	100	Lot No. 100, Nathan Road, Kowloon.	72 feet by 50 feet.	3,000 sq. ft.	0.2700	2,700

[1161]

ON SALE.

HONGKONG HANSARD REPORTS of the MEETINGS of the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL for the Session, 1916.

REVISED BY THE MEMBERS.

PRICE \$5.

DAILY PRESS OFFICE

INTIMATIONS

THE CHINA LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY LIMITED.

THE SIXTEENTH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Offices of the Company, St. George's Building, No. 6, Connaught Road, Victoria, on SATURDAY, the 20th day of October, 1917, at 11.30 A.M. for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts and the Report of the General Managers for the year ending the 31st July, 1917, and electing a Consulting Committee and Auditors.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from 15th to 18th of October, 1917, both days inclusive.

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 5th October, 1917. [1130]

NOTICE.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE CO., LTD.

THE CERTIFICATE for one Share No. 14011 in this Company standing in the name of WILLIAM DE ROSSER of Yokohama, Japan, has been LOST, and if at the expiration of one month from the date hereof the above document be not forthcoming, another Certificate for the said Share will be issued by the Company and thereafter no other will be acknowledged.

C. H. P. HAY,
per pro. General Manager.
Hongkong, 4th October, 1917. [1118]

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE CO., LTD.

NOTICE.

THE CERTIFICATE No. 4309 for two Shares Nos. 8771 and 17540 in this Company standing in the name of Mrs. ANNA JOSEFA CARNERO DE LECAROS (deceased), late of Macao, has been LOST, and if at the expiration of one month from the date hereof the above document be not forthcoming, another certificate for the said Shares will be issued by the Company and thereafter no other will be acknowledged.

C. H. P. HAY,
per pro. General Manager.
Hongkong, 5th October, 1917. [1119]

TWIN SCREW STEAMER "ALACRITY."

1,016 tons gross. Built 1888.

SALE of the above steamer—her hull tackle Furniture, Machinery and Boilers as she lies at H.M. Dockyard, Hongkong.

GENERAL CONDITIONS OF TENDER.

(1) The vessel is offered for sale as she now lies to British or Allied firms for cargo-carrying purposes. The Admiralty take no responsibility for any damage or defects that may now or hereafter exist, and do not guarantee any portion of the vessel to be fit for further use.

(2) Intending tenderers or their accredited Hongkong agents will be required to deposit the sum of \$500 Hongkong Currency in Bank Notes with the Secretary and Cashier of the Dockyard, who will issue the authorised form of tender in return. This deposit will be returnable in the case of unsuccessful tenderers after the announcement of the result of the tender, and will be counted as part of the purchase money in the case of the successful tenderers. No tenders will be recognised which are not made out on the authorised form of tender, and no interest will be paid on tenders deposited.

(3) All tenders should reach the Office of the Commodore-in-Charge, Hongkong, not later than noon on the 3rd December, 1917, at which time and date the tenders will be opened. Tenderers will not be admitted.

(4) The vendors are not bound to accept the highest or any tender, but have the liberty to call for entirely fresh tenders or to dispose of the vessel in any other way they may think fit. In the event of identical tenders the vendors reserve their rights of acceptance or rejection.

(5) Should the acceptance of any tender be notified the successful tenderer will be required immediately to deposit one-fourth of the purchase money, and to pay the balance of the purchase money within one month from the date of such notification, and the vessel will be at purchaser's risk from the date of the notification.

(6) Further particulars regarding the conditions of sale, and a list of fittings to be sold with the ship, can be obtained from the Naval Store Officer, H.M. Dockyard, Hongkong.

(7) The vessel will be open to inspection from the 24th October to the 28th November, both days inclusive, between the hours of 10 A.M. and 4 P.M. Inspecting orders can be obtained from the Office of the Commodore, H.M. Dockyard, Hongkong.

R. W. MYBURGH, Commander,
for Commodore and Senior Naval Officer,
Hongkong. [1164]

NOTICE

ANY EUROPEAN, Non-Asiatic or Indian desiring to leave the Colony should apply in person at the Central Police Station between the hours of 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. daily.

Applicants will be required to produce Passports or identification papers.

All persons with certain exceptions who remain in the Colony for more than 7 days are required to Register themselves under the REGISTRATION or PERSONS ORDINANCE 1916.

Forms of Registration giving the particulars required may be obtained at the G.P.O. and at all Police Stations.

The Penalty for non-compliance is a fine not exceeding \$50.

ON SALE.

BOUND VOLUMES of the HONGKONG WEEKLY PRESS, JANUARY to JUNE, 1917.

With Index, Price \$7.50.
On Sale at the HONGKONG DAILY PRESS Office.

HOUSES TO LET

TO LET OR FOR SALE.

No. 47, CONDUIT ROAD.

Apply to—
COMPRADORE DEPT.,
Messrs. KARAHIA & Co.,
2, Connaught Road, Central.
[1149]

TO LET.

IMMEDIATE entry. Four very desirable SHOPS, situated in Lee House Street, opposite the Grand Hotel, recently reconstructed.

For rent and other particulars apply to—
THE MANAGER,
HONGKONG FOR CO., LTD.,
46, Connaught Road Central.
[900]

TO LET.

OFFICES at 2, Connaught Road Central.

OFFICE in King's Buildings.
HOUSES in Morston Terrace and Wengachong Road.

HOUSES on Shamoon, Canton.
Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY CO., LTD.
[138]

TO LET.

A FLAT in Nathan Road, Kowloon.

FOUR-ROOMED HOUSES in Kowloon.

Apply to—
HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE CO., LTD.
Alexandra Buildings
[841]

TO BE SOLD.

"GLENSHIEL" and "GLENSHIEL BUNGALOW," 140 and 141, Tsz

Apply to—
Box 543,
Care of "Daily Press" Office.
[1088]

MANAGER AND SECRETARY WANTED.

FOR Old-Established Printing and Stationery business in North China. Must be a thoroughly experienced man. Apply, with copies of testimonials, to—
Box 12,
Care of "Daily Press" Office.
[1148]

WANTED.

NURSE for two Children aged 3 and 5 years. European or Portuguese. Apply with references to—
Mrs. W. L. LEASK,
No. 121, Peak.
[1159]

FOR SALE.

USED MIXED POSTAGE STAMPS, with duplicates, in Bags of—
800 Stamps for \$2.50 4000 Stamps for \$2.00
1000 " " 0.80 5000 " " 2.50
2000 " " 1.80 6000 " " 3.00
3000 " " 1.50 8000 " " 4.00

GRACA & CO.,
No. 4, WYNDHAM STREET,
Hongkong.
792

VEGETABLE AND FLOWER SEEDS.

FRESH CROP of 1917 having been just collected orders

solicited for Autumn or early Spring sowing.

List will be mailed free on application.

THE YOKOHAMA NURSERY

Co., Ltd.,
P.O. Box 72,
YOKOHAMA, JAPAN.
[1108]

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND SINGAPORE

THE Steamship

"KWAISANG,"
having arrived from the above ports, Consignees of Cargo by her are notified that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Ltd., whence and/or from the Wharves delivery may be obtained.

Goods not cleared by the 20th inst. will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed and damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined.

Claims against the Steamer must be presented within 10 days of arrival, otherwise they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by us in any case whatever.

Bills of Lading will be countermanded by JARDINE MATHESON & CO., LTD., General Managers.

Hongkong, 15th October, 1917. [115]

INTIMATION

DEWAR'S

"Imperial Institute"

SCOTCH

WHISKY

The Whisky of your forefathers.

SOLE AGENTS:

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,

TELEPHONE 616.

BIRTH.

WALLER.—At Foochoo, on the 17th inst., the wife of STEPHEN R. WALLER, of the Asiatic Petroleum Co., a son.

Hongkong Office: 10, Des Voeux Road, C. LONDON, OFFICE: 121, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, 18th OCTOBER, 1917.

OUR MERCANTILE MARINE.

It has frequently been said that shipping is the life-blood of Hongkong, and it requires but a short residence in the Colony to realise the truth of the statement. Though the possibility of a cessation of imports and exports may have occurred to some since the outbreak of war the probability has never been seriously considered. Faith in the Royal Navy and the mercantile marine has never wavered. No Briton ever paid any serious heed to the threats of the Germans to cut the means of communication between the various members of the Empire by the aid of their submarines. We recognised that the contemptible campaign might produce inconveniences, but that it would ever succeed in accomplishing its authors' designs we refused to believe. This may be regarded as a sincere, if silent, tribute to our Navy and mercantile marine, but it does not, of course, discharge our obligation to them.

The shipping of the Colony has, however, been seriously curtailed by the war. Never have such prices obtained for freights. It is stated on good authority, that the cost of transporting a motor-car from the United States to Hongkong is greater than the purchase price. The great increase which has taken place in the value of cargo space is, of course, due to the war, but it is not all due to the German submarine campaign. When we examine the shipping situation carefully we find that the main cause of the shortage of tonnage is not war wastage, but the utilisation of ships for war purposes. There has, of course, been a shrinkage of the tonnage of the British mercantile marine, and it would be foolish to pretend that the results of the efforts

of the Germans at sea have been negligible. At the outset of the war the fleet of the United Kingdom consisted of about eighteen million tons, and now it has fallen to fifteen million tons. It must be remembered, however, that during the first three years of the war the construction of merchant ships in the United Kingdom was only about one-third that of pre-war days. The shipyards were increasing, enormously, the striking and defensive power of the Royal Navy. They have brought that up to such a pitch of perfection that, in the absence of any heavy naval losses, they are able now to concentrate their attention upon building standardised ships for the merchant service. It is, however, as well to view this German submarine campaign in its proper perspective and not to be led away, as the Germans desire, by wild statements and unexplained statistics. We have it on expert authority that, had it been possible to maintain the pre-war shipbuilding output, the mercantile tonnage of the United Kingdom would have shown an increase at the end of three years of war. We need not despair, if the war continues, that the shipyards of Britain will turn out ships faster than the submarines and mines of Germany can sink them. The first of the new standardised ships of 8,000 tons deadweight capacity was due to be ready at the end of August and is, perhaps, now at sea. The history of the production of munitions in Britain makes us sanguine of the results of organised efforts in shipbuilding.

The chief cause of limited tonnage for trade purposes, and the consequent high freights, is that two out of every five tons in the British mercantile marine is being used to meet the demands of the British forces in the field, the Allies, and the Overseas Dominions. It is only necessary to remember that in the first thirty months of the war, some eight million men were carried over the sea, together with horses, baggage and millions of tons of supplies and munitions, in order to realise why there is such a demand for ships for war purposes. After three years of fighting, the Imperial Government has taken control of all merchant shipping. With the exception of a few vessels in distant waters employed on work vital to British Colonies, and of vessels chartered to France and Italy, about ninety-seven per cent. of the ocean-going tonnage of the United Kingdom have been requisitioned for hire at Government rates; and all British liners have also been taken over. The British Government now directs every ocean-going voyage of a British steamer, and, in the interests of the Empire, disregards the interests both of the shipowner and the exporter. It is an extraordinary situation, but the owners have made it possible by their patriotic co-operation. It is not, however, the owners only who have shown their practical patriotism. We can never forget, for a moment, the daily heroism of the officers and crews of those merchant ships which pass through the danger-zones. Their calmness in the face of hidden terrors is the admiration of the world. Nor should we overlook their plucky, and often successful, efforts to destroy the German pirate-craft. The officers and men of our mercantile marine have suddenly revealed the fighting spirit of Drake and the Elizabethan heroes. They have never held back from the unequal fight in which their foes have nearly all of the advantages so far as weapons are concerned. In a world-struggle which has brought out wonderful self-sacrifice and devotion to duty amongst all classes the British mercantile marine has won a great moral victory over savage terrorism, and we hope that every ship which has passed through the danger-zone will, when the war is over, carry some permanent memento of her heroic past.

We cannot leave this subject of the British mercantile marine without a word to the people in Hongkong. We do not wish to minimise what they have done for the Empire during the war, for we are justly proud of the Colony's contributions in men and money. We know, also, that the men in business are often doing their ordinary work and that of a comrade who has gone to the front, while in addition, they have to perform their drills and meet the demands made by charity on their time and purse. They have had so much to engage their attention and energy that we do not wish to offer any direct or implied rebuke. We merely put forward a gentle reminder:

that in future the Colony, as a whole, might more readily show its appreciation of the inestimable work of the British mercantile marine. Hongkong, if not actually the biggest port in the world, is one of the biggest, and, as we have said, its very existence depends upon its shipping. Let us never forget the heroism of the officers and men on the vessels which fly the red ensign, but take every opportunity possible to show them that we understand, and are grateful for, what they have done for us, for the Empire, and for humanity.

Reading matter for the troops has been received from Capt. Lindberg, s.s. *Patchan*.

Dr. W. W. Pearce, M.O.H. of Hongkong, leaves the Colony to-day (Thursday) for Home, where he will take up war work.

Many readers who knew Inspector Withers, formerly of the Hongkong Police, will be interested to learn that he has been given a commission in the Chinese Labour Corps, and is now in France.

Mr. H. Cadman, of the Amey branch of the Asiatic Petroleum Co., leaves to-day to volunteer for active service. He has lost one brother at the Front. Another brother is the well-known professor of mining.

The Police have received a report from a Chinese that some person picked the pocket of his coat, which was hanging on a peg, and stole \$21 in Singapore money and a \$5 War Lottery Ticket No. M. 0373.

News has been received that Mr. C. W. Brett, formerly of the Hongkong Sanitary Department, died in England recently. Mr. Brett, who had a wide circle of friends in the Colony, retired on pension a few years ago.

As the total entries for the Royal Hongkong Golf Club Championship competition do not exceed 32 the qualifying round fixed for Sunday, the 21st inst., is cancelled. The Championship commences on Sunday, 28th inst.

The manager of a Chinese shop at 209, Wing Lok Street has reported to the Police that his accountant absconded on the 12th instant with \$5,500 in bank notes belonging to the firm, and also with \$14,580 in notes deposited in his possession for safe custody by a man in Canton.

A Whist Drive was held by the Royal Naval Quadrille Club on Tuesday evening. Prizes were won by the following:—Ladies—1st, Mrs. Bower; 2nd, Mrs. Collins; 3rd, Mrs. Harrison. Men—1st, Mr. Rowe; 2nd, Mr. Seacombe; 3rd, C.Q.M.S. Reakes, R.E. Chief Writer Smith, R.N., carried out the duties of M.C. It was announced that the usual winter dances will commence on the first Tuesday in November.

The wedding of Mr. G. Stark, of the China Light and Power Company, and Miss Edith McLeod, only daughter of Mr. W. McLeod, of the Victoria Gaol staff, was celebrated at the Union Church yesterday morning. The Rev. J. Kirk Macdonald officiating. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a becoming gown of white satin, and was attended by Miss Peggy McKay, as bridesmaid. Mr. Kay carried out the duties of "best man." Subsequently a reception was held at the Hongkong Hotel, and later in the day the newly-married couple left for Macao for their honeymoon. Among the numerous wedding gifts was a handsome silver salver presented to the bridegroom by Messrs. Shewan, Tomes & Company.

A FACTION FIGHT.

NIPPED IN THE BUD BY THE POLICE.

A Sanitary Board cooie was charged before Mr. Dyer Ball at the Magistracy yesterday with the illegal possession of a dagger.

It was stated that the Police received information that there was going to be a faction fight between the Sanitary Board cooies and the cooies of the Tea House Guild. The Police proceeded to Tai Ping Shan, where they saw a mob looking very aggressive and ready for the fray. Defendant was seen with a dagger, and was arrested. It was suggested that if the Police had not been on the scene at the time there would probably have been a very serious fight.

The case was remanded.

THE WAR.

THE PREMIER'S MESSAGE TO SIR DOUGLAS HAIG.

ACTIVITIES IN THE GULF OF RIGA.

MUTINIES IN THE AUSTRIAN NAVY.

Franco-Belgian Front.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

EFFECTIVE COUNTER-BATTERY WORK.

LONDON, October 17th. Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports: Our patrols were active on the battle front and brought in a few prisoners.

There was considerable reciprocal artillery activity.

Owing to the clearer weather, we carried out much effective counter-battery work.

The South Midlanders raided trenches last night, in the neighbourhood of Roux and inflicted casualties. Another raid to the northward of Lens yielded us a few prisoners.

Our fire, early this morning, repulsed a strong raiding party to the south-westward of Acheville.

Our aeroplanes, yesterday, machine-gunned enemy infantry from low altitudes. They dropped two tons of bombs on a large dump at Courtrai and other targets. We brought down five enemy machines. Three of ours are missing.

FRENCH REPULSE RAIDS.

PARIS, October 17th.

A communiqué states:—After a lively bombardment, several enemy raids on the Aisne front, to the south of Courtrai, were repulsed.

There was a lively artillery duel in the region of the plateaux.

PREMIER CONGRATULATES SIR DOUGLAS HAIG.

ASSURANCES OF CONFIDENCE.

LONDON, October 16th.

The Press Bureau announces that Mr. Lloyd George has sent the following message to Sir Douglas Haig:—"The War Cabinet desires to congratulate you and your troops on the achievements of the armies in Flanders in the great battle which has been raging since July 31st, starting from positions in which every advantage rested with the enemy, and hampered by the most unfavourable weather. You and your men, nevertheless, have continuously driven back the enemy with skill, courage and pertinacity, commanding the grateful admiration of the peoples of the Empire and filling the enemy with alarm. I desire to renew my personal assurance of my confidence in your leadership and in the devotion of those you command."

EARLIER CABLES.

BRITISH FRONT.

IRISH TROOPS IN SUCCESSFUL RAID.

LONDON, October 16th.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—Irish troops successfully raided north-west of Bullecourt.

There was considerable hostile artillery firing during the night in the neighbourhood of the Ypres-Staden railway.

FRENCH FRONT.

GENERAL WARFARE.

PARIS, October 16th.

A communiqué states:—On the Aisne front the reciprocal artillery firing is less intense.

On the left bank of the Meuse, we repulsed an attack north of Hill 304.

On the right of the Meuse, the artillery duel is particularly active north of Bois des Carrières.

Germans aircraft last night bombarded Dunkirk. There were no victims, nor was there any material damage.

Russian Front.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

GERMAN REPORT.

LONDON, October 16th.

A wireless German official message states:—We prisoners a further 1,100 at Sworbe Peninsula.

The Near East.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

ACTIVITY NEAR MONASTIR.

LONDON, October 17th.

A French Eastern communiqué states: The artillery was active on the whole front, especially to the north of Monastir.

Our troops repelled enemy detachments on the Western bank of Lake Ochrida, who were attempting to land from barques.

The total prisoners taken in the Haniondos raid, mentioned yesterday, has reached 183.

Aerial Activities.

EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

NAVAL AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTER ENEMY FORMATIONS.

LONDON, October 16th.

The Admiralty announces:—Naval aircraft carried out a considerable number of patrols yesterday and encountered several enemy formations. We drove down two machines and one of ours is missing.

We carried out bombing raids on Bruges Docks and Varsenaeres and Houtave aerodromes, dropping large quantities of explosives, with good effects.

All our machines returned safely.

The Balkans.

EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BALKANS FRONT.

GERMAN REPORT.

LONDON, October 16th.

A German official wireless message says the Bulgarians have ceded some villages to the English on the Struma Plain.

General.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

DISAFFECTION IN THE AUSTRIAN NAVY.

ROME, October 17th.

The *Giornale d'Italia* states, on reliable authority, that several extremely serious mutinies, accompanied by scenes of terror and bloodshed, have occurred on several ships of the Austrian Navy, owing to food troubles and inhuman treatment by the officers.

There was a sanguinary encounter at Pola between Austrian crews and a German U-boat flotilla, owing to the tyranny of the latter. They were only subdued by the intervention of naval patrols, in which a number of German sailors were killed.

Afterwards, the U-boats were ordered to another base.

Disaffection in the Austrian Navy is increasing in a threatening manner.

THE GERMAN LOSSES IN FLANDERS.

LONDON, October 17th.

Reuter learns that the most careful estimates show that German losses in the recent battles in Flanders exceed the British losses by 75 per cent.

TYPICAL OF THE BULLY.

ZURICH, October 17th.

In view of the forthcoming British air offensive on southern Germany the changing tone of the enemy Press is typical of the bully.

The *Muenchener Post* has now discovered that air raids on open towns have simply stiffened the determination of the people and expresses a fervent hope that this horrible slaughter of defenceless persons will cease forthwith.

The German newspapers have decided, in future, not to print the speeches of enemy Statesmen so fully, substituting the Wolff Bureau reports.

In a brief summary, the *Frankfurter Zeitung* protests that neither the Press nor the public has got unbounded confidence in the Wolff Bureau which will make the public more anxious to read the neutral Press.

OFFICERS ARRESTED AT ODDESSA.

ODDESSA, October 17th.

A number of officers have been arrested on a charge of planning the seizure of the General Staff of the Military district.

ENEMY HOLDERS OF BRITISH TITLES.

LONDON, October 17th.

The House of Commons has passed the third reading of the Bill depriving enemy holders of British titles.

THE KAISER'S VISIT TO SOFIA.

ONE OF THE OBJECTS.

AMSTERDAM, October 16th.

An article, contributed from a well informed source, to the *Wiener Zeitung*, indicates that one of the objects of the Kaiser's visit to Sofia is to induce Bulgaria to attack General Sarraill's army, with Salonika as the promised reward should the attack prove successful.

The article states that Greece is expected shortly to declare war against Bulgaria, whereupon the latter will bring 800,000 men against General Sarraill and leave 200,000 in the Dobruja.

EARLIER CABLES.

GERMAN SOCIALISTS AND ALSACE-LORRAINE.

AMSTERDAM, October 16th.

Herr Ebert, the President of the Socialist party in the Reichstag, presiding at a Socialist meeting at Wuerzburg, said that a speedy conclusion of peace was a vital necessity to the workmen of all countries. The policy of the mailed fist after the war's frightful horrors would disappear and if a ballot were taken nine-tenths of the people would approve of peace. He declared that the Michaelis régime spells the collapse of the present Government system of Germany.

Herr Scheidemann, referring to the naval mutiny, asserted that if the Government wanted to catch all those concerned in similar incidents they would have to prosecute three hundred persons simultaneously. "Every day soldiers come to us with complaints and we have opened a special bureau to investigate these."

Herr Scheidemann affirmed that Admiral von Capelle would go, but asked when would Dr. Michaelis follow? Another account of the meeting states that Herr Ebert said that the Socialists favoured Alsace-Lorraine having "a complete republican autonomy and constitutional equality with other Federal States."

Herr Ebert stated that the number of members had decreased by 70 per cent, partly owing to the members at the front, but six out of 38 district organisations, 57 electoral districts and 21 local unions, had seceded.

ENDANGERING DUTCH NEUTRALITY.

HERR SCHROEDER ACQUITTED.

AMSTERDAM, October 16th.

Herr Schroeder, the editor of the *Telegraaf*, has been finally acquitted after six trials in which he was only convicted once of endangering Dutch neutrality by describing the Central Powers as a group of conscienceless scoundrels who caused the war.

AMERICA AND THE WAR.

HUGE STOCKYARD FIRE.

KANSAS CITY, October 16th.

Half of the city stockyards, the second largest in the country, has been destroyed by fire.

Several thousand head of cattle perished.

The origin of the outbreak has not been determined.

PREVENTING SUPPLIES FOR GERMANY.

WASHINGTON, October 16th.

In continuance of the strict policy of cutting off supplies likely to reach Germany, the War Trade Board publishes an agreement which shippers must sign before exporting goods to branches abroad.

Shippers must guarantee that goods will not go directly or indirectly to Germany or any ally of Germany; also, that they will not be sold or delivered without the written approval of the American Consul at the place of delivery.

CONSOLIDATING GOLD RESERVES.

NEW YORK, October 16th.

President Wilson has issued an appeal to all eligible members of the Federal Reserve Board to join the Board and thus contribute their share to the country's consolidated gold reserve.

There are at present between eight thousand and nine thousand such banks and companies with resources estimated at between twelve billions and sixteen billions of dollars whose activities are controlled by State Laws.

The President desires that these huge resources shall be mobilised under the supervision of the Federal Reserve Board. He says:—"The vigorous prosecution and satisfactory termination of the war will depend to no small degree on the ability of the Government not only to finance itself but to aid the Allies, which must be kept supplied with munitions, fuel, and food of all kinds."

GERMAN AGENT ARRESTED.

NEW YORK, October 16th.

A man giving the name of Dunbar, which is not believed to be his real name, has been arrested on a charge of attempting to obtain military or naval information.

Dunbar is an ex-member of the crew of a United States submarine-chaser, and has been spending much of his time near a great naval base on the Atlantic Coast. The Department of Justice regards the arrest as very important, believing that he is a German agent.

THE LOSS OF S.S. "BARI."

ROME, October 16th.

The rescued men from the steamer *Bari* state that the German submarine continued the bombardment after the torpedoing, thereby killing a number of passengers.

KAISER MEETS SULTAN OF TURKEY.

AMSTERDAM, October 16th.

The Kaiser has arrived at Constantinople.

He was welcomed at the station by the Sultan, Princes, the ex-Khedive and notables.

POLAND'S REGENCY COUNCIL.

AMSTERDAM, October 16th.

The Central Powers have appointed the Archbishop of Warsaw, the Mayor of Warsaw, and a landed proprietor, named M. Vonostrowski, as a Regency Council for Poland.

LABOURITIES AND THE COLONIES.

LONDON, October 16th.

In the House of Commons, replying to a question, Lord Robert Cecil stated that the Government was not responsible for the proposals regarding the Colonies which were contained in the Labour Party Memorandum, dated on August 10th. Those proposals did not represent the views of the Government.

[The proposals were that all the present European Colonies in tropical Africa, with Liberia, should be transferred to a League of Nations and administered by an Imperial Commission as a single independent neutral African State.]

PRIME MINISTER'S LIBEL ACTIONS.

DEFENDANTS APOLOGISE AND DEFRAY COSTS.

LONDON, October 16th.

The High Court libel actions by Mr. Lloyd George against the Exchange Telegraph Company, the *Westminster Gazette*, and the *Star* have been settled, the defendants apologising and paying costs.

The case arose out of the publication of a paragraph, issued by the Exchange Telegraph Company, stating that on the occasion of the air raid on September 24th the Prime Minister left Downing Street for his country residence, when it became known that raiders were approaching London.

Counsel for the plaintiff contended that the paragraph implied that the Premier was guilty of personal cowardice. The Premier had been informed that the effect of the paragraph, especially in the East End, where many munition workers had suffered greatly in the raids, had been most damaging.

Mr. Lloyd George gave evidence, saying that he left London on the evening of September 24th for Boulogne, accompanied by General Sir William Robertson and Admiral Sir John Jellicoe, in order to confer with M. Painlevé and the French War Chiefs. The Premier stated that no action would have been taken if the paragraph could be regarded as a mere personal attack.

All the defendants declared that no imputation was intended.

CONDITIONS IN IRELAND.

MR. REDMOND'S MOTION.

LONDON, October 16th.

In the House of Commons, Mr. John Redmond gave notice of the following motion:—"That this House deprecates the policy which has been pursued and is being pursued by the Irish Executive, the Government and the Irish Military Authorities at a time when the highest interests of Ireland and the Empire demand the creation of an atmosphere favourable to a successful result of the deliberations of the Irish Convention."

CONTROL OF PETROLEUM SUPPLIES.

LONDON, October 16th.

The House of Commons has adopted the second reading of a Bill assuring Government control of all supplies of petroleum discovered in the United Kingdom.

Mr. E. G. Prentice representing the Board of Trade, said that certain eminent geologists both here and from the United States, were of the opinion that local conditions in some parts of the country justified boring experiments.

BRITISH AIR MINISTRY.

LONDON, October 16th.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Bonar Law announced that a scheme constituting the Air Ministry would shortly be introduced. Meanwhile General Smuts would continue to supervise the Air Service.

KILLED IN ACTION.

LONDON, October 16th.

Lieutenant Allan Ives Steel, of the Coldstreamers, who came from Calcutta, is reported killed in action.

NORWAY'S SHIPPING LOSSES.

LONDON, October 16th.

Twenty-eight Norwegian ships were lost during September, of which 19, representing 30,000 tons, were due to "events of war."

FEMALE SPY EXECUTED.

PARIS, October 16th.

Marguerite Golle, the Parisian dancer known as "Matahari," who was sentenced to death on July 28th for espionage, has been executed.

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO.

APPRECIATION OF STOCK.

LONDON, October 16th.

The feature of the Stock Exchange is a spurt in the Deferred shares of the Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, to 225, owing to rumours of a working arrangement with the P. and O. Company. [There has been a local "boom" in Indos today the quotation rising from \$105 to \$122.]

CHINESE TELEGRAMS.

[BY COURTESY OF THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

THE ATTACK ON SZECHWAN.

PEKING, October 17th.

Chu Tao-kon has wired to the Provinces stating that the attack on Szechwan by the Yunnan troops is illegal. Chang Tan, the Governor of Szechwan arrived in Chengtu, on the 12th inst.

THE FLOODS.

The loan for the relief of distress caused by the flood at Tientsin was signed on the 15th. The sum is \$700,000.

GOVERNOR OF KWANGTUNG.

Lung Chi-kwong has wired to Peking recommending the appointment of Li Chiao-pin as Tsuchun or Governor of Kwangtung. It is reported that if Kwangtung disobeys the Peking Government, Luk Wing-ting, Chen Ping-kwan and Tam Ho-ming will be dismissed.

RUSSIAN AFFAIRS.

WORKMEN'S AND SOLDIERS' DELEGATES APPEAL.

PETROGRAD, October 16th.

The Executive Central Committee of the Soldiers' and Workmen's Delegates has issued appeals to the forces to vigorously resist the invaders. It promises to see that sacrifices are also made in the rear and to do its best to prevent the war lasting one day too long. Meanwhile a group of political undesirables, recently expelled from Russia but allowed to remain at Helsingfors by the local Soldiers' and Workmen's Delegates there, have returned to Petrograd, while the chemists and chemists' assistants have decided to strike owing to the refusal of their economic demands.

NAVAL ACTIONS IN RIGA GULF.

RUSSIAN NAVY SINKS ENEMY TORPEDO-BOATS.

LONDON, October 16th.

A Russian official wireless message states:—A German Dreadnought shelled a patrol squadron off the Soela Sound, severely damaging the torpedo-boat Grom. Subsequently, twelve German torpedo-boats of the newest type penetrated the Soela Sound and engaged our patrol squadron. They put out of action the Grom's guns, and the Grom took fire and sank. The bulk of her crew was saved.

We sank an enemy torpedo-boat, and other of our warships appearing on the scene, the enemy turned back. Our Fleet Commander testifies to the good firing and the stubborn spirit of the crews.

Eyewitnesses report that two enemy torpedo-boats were sunk and two damaged. The enemy, re-inforced, continues to develop his success on Osel Island, and is endeavouring to capture the batteries at Cerel, covering the entrance to the Gulf of Riga.

GERMAN CLAIMS.

A German wireless official message states:—We have gained possession of the main portion of Osel Island.

The Russians are isolated on Sworbe Peninsula.

They are still desperately resisting. Only portions of the enemy on the East Coast escaped in the direction of Moon Island.

We have captured 2,400 prisoners, and have taken thirty guns and some aeroplanes.

We have occupied the islands of Rano and Abro.

THE SILVER MARKET.

LONDON, October 16th.

Silver is quoted at 43d. pfr. ounce. The supply exceeds the demand, and the market is dull.

"THE LIMIT OF HORROR"

"The limit of horror" of which the German war correspondents speak as having been reached by the French artillery in the preliminary bombardment at Verdun was produced by a giant gun throwing an enormous shell to a height of 30,000 ft. (about 5½ miles). M. Eugene Tardieu, in the *Echo de Paris*, says that at the moment of firing the effect is that of an earthquake, while the mere displacement of the air when the shell bursts is sufficient to hurl a man against a wall into little pieces. Nothing like the devastating effect of this cannon has been seen during the war.

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SHANGHAI	"LINGCHOW"	On 20th Oct.	4 P.M.
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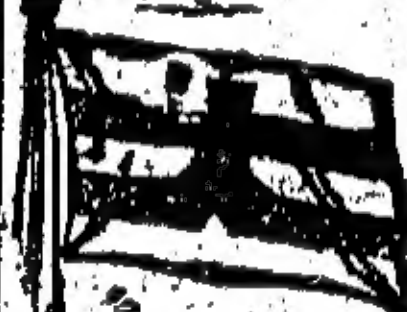
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